

Serial No: 10/813,336

Filed: March 29, 2004

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13, 27-30, 38 and 39-60 without prejudice to further prosecution in another application and amend claims 17, 18, 21, 22, 25, 26, 29, 30, 33, 34 and 37 as shown below.

Claims 14-37 as currently pending in the present application are therefore as follows:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) A method for determining the amount of free gastrin hormone in a biological fluid sample, comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a biological fluid sample comprising a gastrin hormone from a patient;

(b) providing an immobilized antibody that selectively binds a N-terminal epitope of the gastrin hormone;

(c) incubating the sample under suitable conditions for binding of the gastrin hormone in the sample to said antibody to produce an immobilized complex of said antibody bound to the gastrin hormone;

(d) washing the immobilized complex to remove unbound antibody, and reacting the complex with a suitable detectable marker-conjugated antibody that selectively binds an C-terminal epitope bound to the gastrin hormone;

(e) washing the immobilized detectable marker-conjugated antibody complex, and incubating with a development reagent; and

(f) measuring the developed reagent to determine the amount of free gastrin hormone in the biological fluid sample.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the gastrin hormone is G17, or G34 and wherein the C-terminal selective antibody selectively binds the C-terminal of G17 or the C-terminal of G34.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the C-terminal selective antibody that selectively binds the C-terminal end of G17 or G34 is a monoclonal antibody.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 458-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5896).

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the monoclonal antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 458-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5896).

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the N-terminal selective antibody is selective for the N-terminal of G17.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the N-terminal selective antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-1 (ATCC accession [[#]]no. PTA-5889) [[.]] , hybridoma 400-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5890), hybridoma 400-3 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5891) or the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-4 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5892).

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the monoclonal antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5889) [[.]] , hybridoma 400-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5890), hybridoma 400-3 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5891) or the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-4 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5892).

23. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the N-terminal selective antibody is selective for the N-terminal of G34.

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24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the N-terminal selective antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 401-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5890).

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the monoclonal antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 401-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5890).

27. (Original) The method of claim 1 or claim 14, wherein the gastrin hormone is Gly-extended G17, or Gly-extended G34 and wherein the C-terminal selective antibody selectively binds the C-terminal of Gly-extended G17 or Gly-extended G34.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the C-terminal selective antibody that selectively binds the C-terminal end of Gly-extended G17 or Gly-extended G34 is a monoclonal antibody.

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 445-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5894) or the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 445-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5895).

30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the monoclonal antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 445-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5894) or the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 445-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5895).

31. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the N-terminal selective antibody is selective for the N-terminal of G17 or Gly-extended G17.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the antibody selective for the N-terminal of Gly-extended G17 or G17 is a monoclonal antibody.

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33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5889) [[.]] , hybridoma 400-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5890), hybridoma 400-3 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5891) or the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-4 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5892).

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the monoclonal antibody is the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-1 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5889), hybridoma 400-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5890), hybridoma 400-3 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5891) or the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 400-4 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5892).

35. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the N-terminal selective antibody is selective for the N-terminal of G34 or Gly-extended G34.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the antibody selective for the N-terminal of Gly-extended G34 or G34 is a monoclonal antibody.

37. (Currently amended) The method of claim 36, wherein the monoclonal antibody has the characteristics of the monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma 401-1 (ATCC accession no. PTA-5892, or the hybridoma 401-2 (ATCC accession [[#]] no. PTA-5893).

Claims 38-60 (Canceled).